

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 170

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Mickey Ronald Carpenter.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor the memory of Dr. Mickey Ronald Carpenter, a stalwart servant of the Lord who rendered nearly forty years of faithful, selfless, and effective pastoral leadership to numerous congregations across Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carpenter was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, born on January 24, 1948, in Dyersburg, Mickey Carpenter was a man of integrity who embodied the best of his community, having been taught the value of service to others by his parents, Ronald and Virginia Carpenter; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from Newbern High School, he earned his Bachelor of Arts degree from Lambuth University, a Master's Degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University, and a doctorate from Vanderbilt Divinity School; and

WHEREAS, answering the divine call of the ministry, Dr. Carpenter became a licensed pastor and was ordained as a Deacon in 1971, was received as an Elder in 1974, and began his first ministerial appointment as an associate and youth pastor at Murray First United Methodist Church in Murray, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, known to his congregants and community as a bedrock of strength and commitment, this honorable servant of the Almighty served with dedication, enthusiasm, and love at numerous congregations, including Greenfield, Brock's Chapel, Mt. Hermon, Dyersburg First, Henderson First-Trinity, Benton First, Loan Oak, Covington First, and Huntingdon First; and

WHEREAS, in 2003, Mickey Carpenter returned to Dyersburg where he tirelessly contributed his time and tremendous talents for three years as that district's superintendant, working diligently to provide direction and communicate God's love to each of his congregations; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carpenter went on to serve with acumen and alacrity as the Paris District Superintendent, earning the respect and admiration of his colleagues and congregations alike due to his wisdom, empathy, and devotion to the Gospel of Jesus Christ; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable man was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mickey Carpenter enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Marsha Dorgan, and was the proud father of the late James Russell "Rusty" Dorgan-Carpenter and two beautiful twin daughters, Michelle and Megan; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Carpenter leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, known for his role as a reservoir of faith and outreach to the people of the Tennessee, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional religious leader, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Mickey Ronald Carpenter, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his unfailing commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Dr. Carpenter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.